

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application.

Claims 24-41 remain pending in this application, with Claims 24, 27, 30-32, 36, 40, and 41 being independent.

Claims 24-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,140,435 (Suzuki, et al.). Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection for the following reasons.

Independent Claim 24 relates to a video print system comprising a storage medium for storing plural image information and plural time information respectively concerning the plural image information, setting means for setting a predetermined period, reading means for reading from the storage medium the image information including a time indicated by the time information, during the predetermined period set by the setting means, and print means for printing an image based on the image information read by the reading means.

By this arrangement, a video image to be printed can be specified and found with great speed and high accuracy by permitting the user to specify the images to be printed by inputting the time associated therewith, providing a simple operating environment in which the user can specify, at the same time, plural images to be printed, as discussed for example, at pages 34-37 of the specification. This can be accomplished by the operator setting a predetermined time period, for example, by specifying a starting time T1 and a completion time T2, so that the images associated with the times therebetween are printed.

In contrast, the patent to Suzuki et al. is not understood to disclose or suggest setting means for setting a predetermined period, reading means for reading from the storage medium the image information including a time indicated by the time information, during the predetermined period set by the setting means, and print means for printing an image based on the image information read by the reading means, as recited by Claim 24.

The Office Action cites column 7, line 57 to column 8, line 5 of the Suzuki et al. patent as showing the claimed setting means. But this portion of the Suzuki et al. patent is understood to merely disclose a frame designation number input section 20a including a keyboard on which the user can input a frame designation number in the range of 1 to 9 to specify a frame in a 9 frame group comprising the frames around a frame identified by a user by operating a search switch 5 when he or she sees a desired frame on a monitor 4, as discussed at column 7, line 56 through column 8, line 33. Thus, in this process of specifying a frame, the user is understood to perform two inputs: the operator operates a switch 5 and the operator inputs a frame number using a keyboard. Neither operation involves the setting of a predetermined period as recited by independent Claim 24.

The Office Action cites column 10, lines 37-68 of the Suzuki et al. patent as showing the claimed reading means for reading from the storage medium the image information including a time indicated by the time information, during the predetermined period set by the setting means. But this portion of the Suzuki et al. patent is understood to merely show that the number of frames specified by the user by keyboard input around the frame identified by the user by operating the search switch 5 are read out of a memory 11 for display on a monitor 4. Thus, this portion of the Suzuki et al. patent is not understood to disclose or suggest any operation that reads image information from a storage medium *during a predetermined period set by setting means*. Rather, this portion of the Suzuki et al. patent is understood to merely disclose the reading of a number of frames based on the inputting of a desired number of frames via keyboard input.

The Office Action cites column 12, lines 28-36 of the Suzuki et al. patent as showing print means for printing an image based on the image information read by the reading means. But this portion of the Suzuki et al. patent is understood to merely state that a desired frame is printed during normal playback. The normal playback referred to in this passage appears to be related to the process described at column 10, line 49 though column 11, line 40. This passage is understood to disclose that the observer, upon

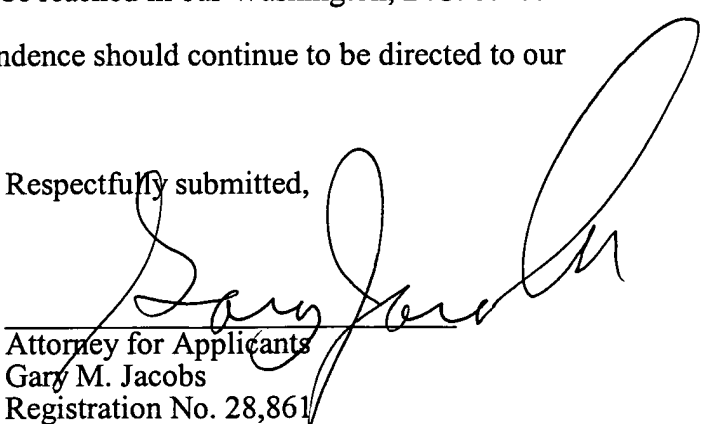
observing the frames surrounding the frame identified by previous operation of the search switch 5, inputs a frame number between 1 and 9 into the frame designation number input section 20a to confirm the frame desired to be printed, and that this specified frame is thereafter printed. Thus, an image is not printed based on information read *during a predetermined period set by setting means*, as recited by Claim 24. Rather, an image is printed based information read as a result of a keyboard input of a frame number.

Thus, the Suzuki et al. patent is not understood to disclose or suggest the setting, reading, or printing means recited by Claim 24. Therefore, Claim 24 is not understood to be anticipated by this patent. And since Claims 27, 30-32, 36, 40, and 41 recite similar features, they are understood to be allowable for similar reasons.

The remaining claims in this application are dependent claims which depend from the above-discussed independent claims. The dependent claims are believed allowable by virtue of this dependency, and for reciting other patentable features of the invention. Favorable and independent reconsideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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